



STATE OF UTAH  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NORMAN H. BANGERTE, GOVERNOR

SUZANNE DANDY, M.D., M.P.H., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ART 1035/002

February 28, 1986  
533-6146

RECEIVED  
FEB 28 1986

Mr. Steve D. Taylor  
Division Environmental Engineer  
Kennecott  
P. O. Box 31838  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84131-0838

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING  
**FILE COPY**

Re: Leach Water Treatment

Dear Mr. Taylor:

We have reviewed the Kennecott January 24, 1986 request for treating leach solution and storing it in ponds in anticipation of excess spring runoff. This request to use ponds in an area already showing contamination is a further indication of the inadequacy of the Kennecott leach and storm runoff system. Continued efforts need to be made by Kennecott to implement an adequate system as soon as possible. Because of the present system and expected saturated soil conditions we recognize the potential advantages of treating some leach water and discharging it to the lined 80 acre pond instead of discharging untreated leach water from the recycle system.

Thus the spring 1986 treatment of approximately 400 acre feet of leach solution and containment in the 80 acre lined pond is approved provided:

1. The daily volume of treated leach solution is reported monthly along with the proposed water treatment monitoring.
2. The water level in the pond does not exceed the lined portion of the pond.
3. Continued efforts are made by Kennecott to treat the north ore chute, pit and seepage waters to state and federal water standards prior to discharge to the Jordan River system. The monthly report should indicate the efforts made during the month.

As discussed during the February 18, 1986 site inspection and the February 20, 1986 meeting, permeability testing of the additional lined ponds needs to be submitted to us by Kennecott. When that test information and the updated runoff predictions are available we will evaluate the appropriateness of additional water treatment and

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KENNETH L. ALKEMA, DIRECTOR • DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

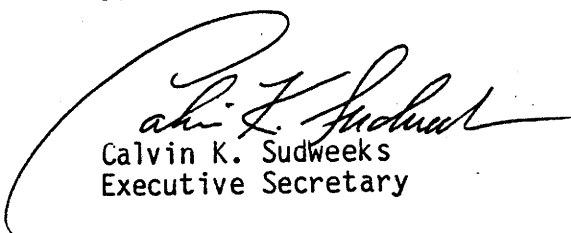
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its disposal in the ponds. In addition efforts should be made by Kennecott to evaluate the possibility of discharging a volume of water from the ponds to the Jordan River equivalent to the volume flowing to the Bingham Reservoir which exceeds the 10 year 24 hour storm runoff. This would help to minimize the local ground water impacts.

Please contact our office if you need to discuss any items in this letter.

Sincerely,

UTAH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE



Calvin K. Sudweeks  
Executive Secretary

cc: Fred Nelson  
Salt Lake City/County Health Dept.  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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SRM:pa  
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